BAR HILL NEWS

Brought to you by the Bar Hill Community Association
February 2025 Issue 665

Meet and Eat

Meet: The Octagon 22 March
Eat: 12:30pm

Come along to the Octagon at 12:30pm to share a meal made by members of the community followed by a chance to stay and chat.

Everyone is welcome to this free event, but places are limited. There is no charge for the meal, but financial donations welcomed.

THIS MONTH: Choir 2000 looking for singers (Page 4), Councillor Reports (Pages 7 and 14), Parish Council News (Page 28), Fete & Festival Update (Page 29), Vets for Pets Monthly Column (Page 38), and Disco to help fund the playground (Page 44).

March 2025 Timetable

Every Monday, 10- 12 (unless otherwise listed) in the Octagon (opposite Maple Surgery)
The Hub is for people of all ages as a place to gather & enjoy community!

3 March	Coffee Stop, Foodbank, Chess, traditional & 5Aside versions	Health & Wellbeing 10:15 -10:45
10 March		Carers Café with speaker from Caring Together 10.00 - 11.30
17 March		Health & Wellbeing 10:15 -10:45
24 March		Evergreens, Meet a Parish Councillor, and Coffee with a Cop 10:30 - 11.30
31 March		

WHEN: Every Monday 10am – 12pm

WHERE: The Octagon (opposite Maple Surgery), Bar Hill, CB23 8EH

WHAT: Our vision is to create a fairer and friendlier community, so everyone can thrive and knows where to turn to for warmth, welcome, friendship and support. The Hub is a busy gathering space, providing a warm, comfortable, welcoming space for our entire community. Come along and join us, we look forward to seeing you!

Coffee Stop: Pop in for a coffee, a piece of delicious home-made cake and a chat with friends, old and new!

Foodbank: No need for any vouchers. If you are struggling financially, drop by and let us help you, available between 10am and11.30am

Citizens Advice: NOTICE: for health reasons, there is no village Citizens Advice service. To book an appointment for face to face, email or telephone advice with the Cambridge office, please use the following contact details

Email: https://www.cambridgecab.org.uk/get-advice/email-us/

Phone: 0808 278 7808

Evergreens: a safe space for those with memory loss to enjoy: Conversation, Connection, Celebration. Accompanied by a carer, friend or family member. When: usually 4th Monday of each month. Please see separate entry in Bar Hill News for more information.

Health & Wellbeing: On the 1st & 3rd Monday, take advantage of some exercise guidance from our experienced coach and visiting speakers (starting at 10.15am).

Carers Café: On the 2nd Monday of the month, providing support for any carers in the village, even if you are not a patient of Maple Surgery

Meet a Parish Councillor: you can meet one of our Parish Councillors to discuss any issues within our village, between 10am and 12pm on the 4th Monday of the month. Just look for the sign within the Coffee Stop.

Traditional & 5Aside Chess (within the Coffee Stop): A great way to connect and start a conversation with people happy to teach you this wonderful game. Come along and join us for refreshments and a chat!

If you have borrowed one of our 5Aside chess sets, we would be very grateful if you could return it to the Community Hub.. Thank you for your help.

BAR HILL COMMUNITY ASSOCIATION

Chair of Trustees	Andy Pellew
Vice Chair	Anthony Mitchell
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Dave Wright	Dee Callaghan

If you'd like to contact the BHCA then you can either;

- Write to us at **Parish Council Offices, Hanover Close, Bar Hill. CB23 8EH**
- Email the Chair of Trustees at **chair-of-trustees@barhill-ca.org**, or
- Call/ message/ WhatsApp **07814 871752**.

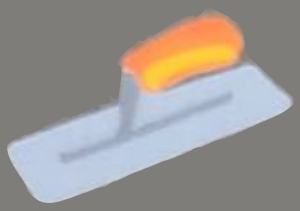
We meet monthly on the second Tuesday at 7:30 pm in the Fox. If you'd like an agenda please get in touch!

Opinions expressed in this publication are not necessarily those of the Association. Anonymous letters will not be published. Names and addresses may be withheld.

There is no charge for Articles, What's On, For Sale or Lost and Found. These appear at the Editor's discretion.

All items should be submitted to **bhn-editor@barhill-ca.org**

See www.barhill-ca.org



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LETTERS, NOTICES & ANNOUNCEMENTS

Please send your letters & notices to **bhn-editor@barhill-ca.org**. Thank you!

Bar Hill HAPPY HOURS Club

The Bar Hill Happy Hours club meets in the main bar area of the Bar Hill Sports and Social Club between 2 and 4pm on Friday afternoons for tea/coffee and cakes, getting together with friends, fun and games. All of this for only £2 per person. The bar is open if you want something extra.

We are looking for new members to join us, so if you are 50 or over, want to get out, see some old friends, meet some new ones and have some fun why not come along!

Coming up: 7th: Bingo and a quiz, 14th: St Patrick's Day/Irish theme, 21st: Bingo and a quiz, 28th: Mother's day

Anne Plumb | **01954 780364** | **anne@rwp10.plus.com**

Calling all Confident Singers!

Choir 2000 is inviting confident singers to join us to sing the Verdi Requiem in our 25th Anniversary Concert at West Road Concert Hall on Sunday 29 June 2025. We would like to swell the chorus to mark this anniversary performance (in particularly more basses and tenors but other voices are welcome) and are looking to increase the number to about 130 singers. This will be accompanied by an excellent professional orchestra. There is more information on our website along with details about how to apply: **www.choir2000.org/verdi-choir/** or contact Lesley Turney on **01954 780739**.

Bar Hill Allotment Society

Have you considered having an allotment? But thought it was out of your reach. We'll consider again and contact the village allotment society.

Currently, we do have one plot available and have a waiting list open for new members wishing to join us . If you want to know more and come and look round our plots, please email the secretary at

barhillallotment@gmail.com

Julie Fry BHAS

Evergreens

If you, or someone you know, is experiencing memory loss, then we have a fun and relaxed group, which meets for refreshments, themed activities, seated exercise and music.

When: 4th Monday each month at 10-11.30

Where: The Octagon, Bar Hill

This group aims to support both carers and those with memory loss in a warm and welcoming environment. For more information, please either email **office@barhillchurch.org.uk** or ring the church office on **01954 206120**, leave a message with your contact details and we will call you back.

Help! We're Missing Something

Maybe it's an article by a group you support? A bit of local news? Or even details of an event? Let us know! Deadline for our April issue is **Thursday 10th March**.

The deadline for submissions is the second Thursday of the Month.
Please send your article to **bhn-editor@barhillca.org** (PDF, Word, Pages, etc)

Dear all,

I'm running the Cambridge Half Marathon hoping to raise money for the ADHD & Neurodiversity Foundation. I, like my son, have ADHD and know the daily struggles that come with the condition. It isn't easy for children, adults or the families of people with this condition to understand what's going on.

Any donations (and support!) would be appreciated.

Darren Bennett

https://bit.ly/chm2025

Bar Hill Indoor Bowls Club

We meet in the school on Friday evenings during term time only from 7.30 pm to 9.30 pm with a 1/2 hour break for coffee. We are a very friendly group and we would love to have some new members. It doesn't matter if you have never played before just come along and join us one Friday, the cost is £3 per week but the 1st week is free.

So why not come along and give it a try?

If you would like more information please contact me on **01954 204171 / 07847 327709** or **barbara.page@live.co.uk**

8 o'clock club

The club is a women's group and we meet in the school on the 1st Thursday of the month at 7.30 pm.

Our next meeting is on the 6th March when we will be celebrating our 52nd birthday with an afternoon tea party at the social club.

Our fee is £15 per year and £1 each meeting for a hot drink and raffle.

We welcome new members to the club. If you would like to join please come along to one of our meetings or phone Barbara **204171** (**07847 327709**) Adela **204265** or Ann **204687**

Bar Hill Community Market

2024 was a challenging year for us. Both organisers have had health issues which are still ongoing. Also, together with a drop in the number of people attending the market over the past couple of years, both in customers and keeping a variety of stallholders, this has led us to have a rethink about whether it is right for us to continue the monthly Community Market for 2025. So, after much heart searching, we have made the decision to take a break so that we may recover our health, but we hope to be back later this year on 1st November and 6th December with Christmas Markets, so please watch this space.

Thanks to everyone who has supported us so faithfully over the past 15 years.

We look forward to seeing you all later in the year.

Karen and Adrienne

Dear all,

Bar Hill Branch of the Royal British Legion were awarded with a cup for the biggest collection for the Poppy Appeal per capita in the Cambridgeshire region. Many thanks to all our wonderful volunteers who made this happen. We couldn't do it without you!

Thank you,

Maggie & Malcolm Cox

Bar Hill Church news

Services

Sun 2 March, 10:00am — **Holy Communion**

Separate activities for children, returning to the service before Communion.

6:00pm — **Informal Worship**

Refreshments served from 6:00pm and the service starting at about 6:30pm.

Wed 5 March, 7:30pm — **Ash Wednesday** service

Sun 9 March, 10:00am — **All Together Worship**

6:00pm — **Time to Remember**

We hold this special service once a year for those who have lost loved ones, however recently or long ago. During the service there will be an opportunity to recall their name and light a candle in their memory, and a time to chat during refreshments afterwards.

Wed 12 March, 10:00am — **Mid-week Communion**

Sun 16 March, 10:00am — **Holy Communion**

Separate activities for children, Communion will be brought out for those who take Communion.

Sun 23 March, 10:00am — **Quaker Meeting**

A mostly silent service of private prayer and reflection; a few participants may stand and speak if they feel led to do so.

Sun 30 March, 10:00am — **All Together Worship** (note clocks go forward)

Contacts

Church Office: Ian Farr, 01954 206120, church.office@barhillchurch.org.uk
Working hours usually include Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday mornings. A number of external activities take place in the church buildings throughout the week. Enquiries about hiring space for an event should be directed to Ian.

Minister: Revd Wendy Wale, 07780 828865, minister@barhillchurch.org.uk
Working days are Monday, Tuesday, Thursday and Sunday.

Website: https://barhillchurch.org.uk
Facebook: https://facebook.com/barhillchurch

BAR HILL DISTRICT COUNCILLOR'S REPORT

Cllr Bunty Waters - **bunty.waters@ntlworld.com**
01954 201421/ 07734 690580

NORTHSTOWE SPORTS PAVILION

Northstowe's new sports pavilion – which has been delivered by South Cambridgeshire District Council – has been officially opened for residents to use.

The pavilion on Peppercorn Drive serves the Western Park sport pitches, bowling green and hard surface games area. It provides team and referee changing, a fully accessible changing places facility, and a large clubroom area including a commercial kitchen and servery. The pavilion meets the specifications suggested by Sport England, the Football Association and Rugby Football Union – whilst the 4G astroturf pitch is designed for rugby – as well as football – matches.

FOUR DAY WEEK CONSULTATION

People can now share their views on South Cambridgeshire District Council's services during a trial of a four-day week.

Anyone anywhere can respond to a full public consultation which started at 9am Monday 27 January. The consultation is open for eight weeks, closing at 11.59pm on Sunday 23 March.

South Cambridgeshire residents can access the consultation online. Any South Cambridgeshire residents who would prefer to complete a paper survey can email communications@scambs.gov.uk or call 01954 713 000.

Given South Cambridgeshire District and Cambridge City councils share some key services – Greater Cambridge Shared Planning and Greater Cambridge Shared Waste – residents of Cambridge city are also being encouraged to comment on their experiences of using these services.

The information gathered during the consultation will help South Cambridgeshire District Councillors decide on the next steps for the four-day week at the Council.

The consultation was started after the Council Leader, Cllr Bridget Smith, signed a Decision Notice to approve its launch. This followed a discussion at January's Scrutiny and Overview Committee meeting.

The consultation has been set-up so that residents can share their views on how they have found Council services since January 2023 – when a trial of a four-day week began.

The Council announced plans to trial a four-day week – where people deliver 100% of their work, in around 80% of their hours, for 100% of their pay – to help address acute recruitment and retention issues.

"The most important factor for us has always been ensuring our residents continue to receive high quality, reliable services.

The idea of the four-day week at the Council is to help attract and keep talented colleagues in an incredibly competitive local employment market. It is also to help improve services by filling vacant posts permanently, rather than relying on more expensive agency staff. Regularly changing staff, or using agency staff to cover, is both costly and disruptive to services for residents.

Bar Hill Memorial Garden

We are approaching Spring with Bulbs pulling through. The days are getting longer although not all frosts have passed.

At long last everyone can see what wonderful work and changes to the Memorial Garden, have taken place. Our grateful thanks to John Hinchliffe who has installed the plaques. My grateful thanks go to the whole team who help maintain and have worked so hard in the garden. We are aware that some wheelchairs and wheeled walking aids find access difficult. Like before it takes time for the stones to settle, please keep to the edge. If you are having problems please talk to Chris below.

The refurbishment costs of £5000.00p plus have been met by donations / grants from individuals, The Parish Council , The Community Association, South Cambridgeshire Community Chest, The Co-Op. for which we are extremely grateful.

If you would like to donate towards the upkeep of the Memorial Garden, cheques / cash may be left at 7 Acorn Avenue made payable to Bar Hill Memorial Garden or alternatively paid directly into Bar Hill Memorial Account at the Cambridge Building Society Account Number 1768402740 Sort Code 20-17-55 If you wish to talk to someone re a donation then please phone Chris on the numbers below. Thank you once again to all those who have given financial support for this work, including the miscellaneous donation received at Christmas through my door.

Should you wish to place a Memorial Plaque then contact Chris Stannard **01954 781978**, Mobile **07711 623425**, **c.e.stannard1@gmail.com**

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Bar Hill Library - March 2025

We are very pleased to be hosting 'Secrets and Suspense' - a visit by the bestselling author Alison Stockham.

Thursday 6th March at 2 pm

Tickets £5 (includes refreshments)

This event must be pre-booked. Tickets available through the library or online at BarHill.Referral@cambridgeshire.gov.uk

Does your child enjoy listening to stories?

Come to our monthly Story Time sessions on the 3rd Wednesday of every month.

We share picture books in our children's area and all are welcome.

This month's session is on **Wednesday 19th March at 3.15 - 3.45 pm**

Don't forget that we have many other regular sessions such as Rhymetime, Family Lego Club and our Pet Therapy Dog drop-in sessions every month. For more information about what we have to offer, please check the Cambridgeshire Libraries website and either click on 'Visit' or 'News and Events'.

"TIME TO REMEMBER"

This is a Special Service , to be held in the Worship Hall on Sunday 9th March at 6p.m.

During this service you will hear poems, hymns, prose and other suitable words that can help us reflect on those who have died, those whom we loved, or have been separated from for a variety of reasons. There will be an opportunity to light a candle in memory of a loved one.

There will be people available to listen to individuals, who may wish to talk to those who have shared similar experiences. There will be CRUSE Trained Volunteers available. Refreshments will be served following the Service.

Should you wish to discuss this service re its' suitability please contact:

Di Gunton **07738 762740**, Sue Kenchington **780260**, Chris Stannard **781978** or Revd Wendy Wale **07780 828865**

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GIRLGUIDING - MARCH 2025

Girlguiding
Bar Hill and Northstowe
District

Girlguiding is thriving in Bar Hill. We have a Rainbow unit, two Brownie Units and a Guide Unit. Every week girls are engaged in fun activities learning about themselves, their communities and the world around them.

World Thinking Day – 22 February is an important day for all members of Girlguiding and Girl Scouting around the World. It is the day which marks the birthday of our founders Lord and Lady Baden Powell and on that day we remember all our guiding sisters in over 150 countries. To mark the day this year thousands of UK members of Girlguiding in the Anglia Region held a huge sleepover in different venues across the region on the same night – 22 February - Anglia Pyjama Party. Brownies and Guides from Bar Hill took part in the sleepover, which included activities from around the world.

The Brownies in Bar Hill have had a busy start to the new term. We had an evening of STEM activities; even revealing to the girls that sometimes experiments don't work! We've learned how to say 'hello' in many languages and were amazed to learn how many girls have a second language. We did robot coding and made lego robots and finished the half term with a trip to Clip'n'Climb. We are very much looking forward to the rest of the Spring Term.

www.girlguiding.org.uk | barhillguiding@icloud.com

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BAR HILL COUNTY COUNCILLOR'S REPORT

Cllr Edna Murphy - Edna.Murphy@cambridgeshire.gov.uk
01223 577005

The Budget 2025-26

I'm pleased to say we have passed a budget which invests in areas of need, despite the extreme pressures we face. We took our lead from the survey of residents' views, which identified some clear areas of need which had to be addressed.

The county council has a turnover of £1.2bn, and this year we had to close a budget gap of £35.1m. Yet we have invested in key areas, for example:

- £65m in highways maintenance over 3 years. There is a huge backlog of repairs which require approximately £600m to fix.
- We spend about £50m pa on highways maintenance (from money received by the Government, rather than local council tax payers) so the additional funding will make a difference.
- We will be putting an extra £20m in planned maintenance including roads, pavements, drainage, bridges, safety barriers, traffic lights, public rights of way and cycleways.
- We are aiming to do more in terms of preventive maintenance, repairing potholes before they form. We'll also bring more highways maintenance services in house, currently it is all contracted out.
- Care is what the county council spends most of its money on, and we will invest further in a number of areas. For example we will continue to support the Real Living Wage for care staff, and invest £9m more for looked after children.

Bar Hill's derelict buildings – what do you want to use the site for?

I have advocated for some time that residents need to be asked what they would use the space for, where currently there are abandoned buildings. Imagine that the site could be cleared of the garage and other buildings, and rendered safe. What should go in its place?

People have mentioned a really wide variety of things - Men's Sheds, a mini forest (ie just trees and shrubbery), allotments, an outdoor gym, a hub for emergency vehicles wanting quick access to the A14 ……but what do YOU think?

Answers to the email above - thank you in advance!

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Bar Hill Sports & Social Club

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OPENING HOURS:
Mon 5-9 pm, Tues - 5-10.30 pm, Wed - 5-11 pm (food 5-9 pm), Thurs - 5-11 pm, Fri - 2 pm-midnight (food 4-10 pm), Sat 12-midnight (food 4-10 pm), and Sun - 12-9 pm (food 4-7 pm). Children under 12yrs welcome till 9 pm except Saturday.

For all info see our website, follow us on Facebook and instagram, or drop us an email at the details below.

UPCOMING EVENTS:
1st - Rock & Roll bingo, 8th - Zero X Band - Playing songs from all eras, 15th - Quiz night supporting Cambridge Players, 17th - St Patricks day drink promo, 22nd - Karaoke, 29th - Bar Hill FC having a dog racing night, and 31st - Annual General Meeting

Bar Hill Church Knit & Natter

"Knit & Natter" is a well established group in Bar Hill for ladies of any age who like to knit with others in a relaxed and friendly atmosphere.

We meet every Thursday afternoon from 1.15 in The Octagon opposite The Doctors Surgery. The Octagon is the smaller building next to Bar Hill Church.

As part of our afternoon activities we encourage everyone who wishes to do, to take part in a few fun and vital short keep fit exercises to boost their physical and mental health.

Our main feature is the creation of many wonderful knitted items which are given to local charities who need our help. This can be baby clothes, warm adult knitted items and Lap blankets in the winter for local people. We have established contacts with local charities who are delighted to receive our "knitted treasures"

Possibly one of the most important features of the group is that all are welcome and are encouraged and enabled to meet new friends while sharing a pleasurable mutual interest. This might be a good starter if you are new to the village to find new friends and re-start a previous hobby

Then, of course, there is Tea time accompanied of course with a welcome selection of cakes.

As well as our weekly meetings, we hold other events in the year. We enjoy outings to the seaside and occasionally, a winter shopping trip. We also have a couple of Craft Days to explore more creative activities. Also a Garden Party in the summer.

We would be delighted to welcome you to our group and I will be happy to talk more about it if you are not sure if it is right for you.

Hope to see you there.

Sue **01954 780260**

Swavesey Camera Club
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Annual Photographic Exhibition

Saturday 22nd March 2025

10am to 4pm at Swavesey Memorial Hall

Swavesey Camera Club are back in March 2025 for their Annual Photographic Exhibition. This event is one of our major opportunities to demonstrate our photographic skills to the public. Visit us and vote for your favourite image. In addition to the beautiful prints on display, there will be a continuous display of projected images and AV presentations. Some of the images will be available as greetings cards with all the proceeds from the card sales going to a nominated charity. Tea, coffee, excellent cakes and other refreshments will be available all day.

Visit our website www.swaveseycameraclub.co.uk where you can find further details of the exhibition. On the website you will also be able to see an online version of the exhibition.

(Our exhibition is kindly sponsored by Ash Croft Veterinary Surgery and Tait Financial Services Ltd).

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THE ROYAL BRITISH LEGION

The Royal British Legion meetings are open to anyone who would like to become a member. You do not have to have served in the Forces to join. We are there to support all ex -service personnel.

Dates for your diary for 2025;

- 24th April
- 26th June
- 28th August
- 23rd October AGM

ROYAL BRITISH LEGION

If you would like to visit and see what we do at a meeting, please feel free to either come along or contact Wendy Arrowsmith on **01954 781381** or Malcolm Cox on **01954 488657**.

Maggie's cancer care centre offers free practical, emotional and social support to people with cancer and their families and friends, before, during and after their treatment. Help is offered freely to anyone with any type of cancer, tailored to individual needs whether the need is emotional support, financial or social. Maggie's professionally trained staff of cancer support specialists, psychologist and a benefit advisor, offer a warm and welcoming environment with no time limit.

Maggie's offer a programme of support each day ranging from yoga, men's support group, art therapy for adults and separately for children, bereavement support, hypnotherapy and acupuncture for hot flushes, menopause workshops and many more support groups throughout the week.

Maggie's is located at 21 Milton House, Addenbrooke's Hospital, Puddicombe Way, Cambridge CB2 0AD.

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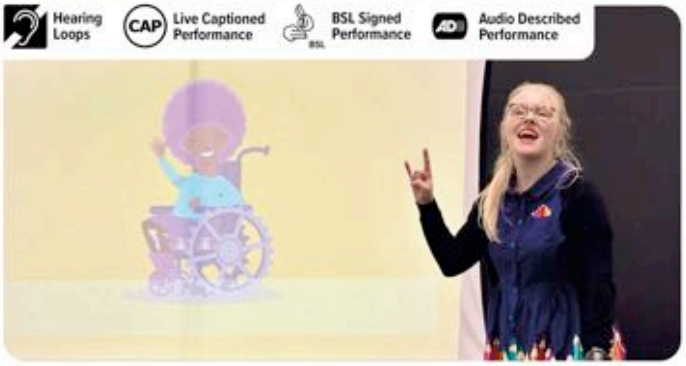

F(able): Fierce Fairy Tales for the Next Generation of Heroes

(Theatre & Storytelling)

Saturday 12 April
3pm (Doors open 2.45pm)

Running time: 30 minutes
Suitable for:
Families with children aged 5 – 11 yrs
Tickets: Pay what you can (Booking required)

An uplifting and modern retelling of fairy tales, where disabled characters are the heroes! This fun show by **Helena Ascough** features storytelling and animation with an exciting original soundtrack. Come and experience fairy tales like you have never experienced them before...big kids welcome!

To book tickets and to see access information and full detail of the whole programme visit www.library.live/the-library-presents

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Are you ready to rise to the challenge? Visit **arhc.org.uk/mount-toubkal-trek** or email **gina@arhc.org.uk**

Arthur Rank Hospice Charity

BHCA

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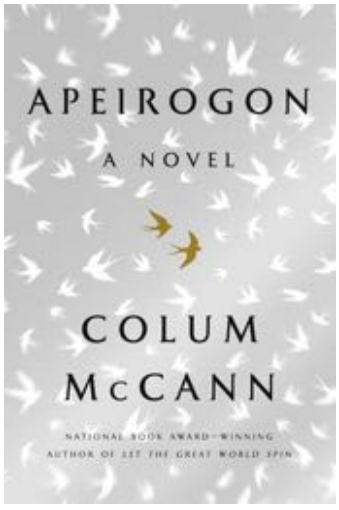
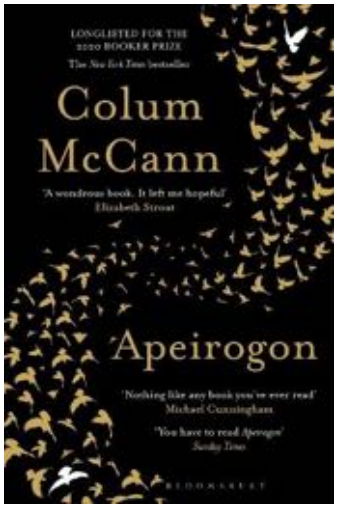


Bar Hill Ladies Book Club

Bar Hill Book Club will meet again on Tuesday 18th March in the Sports and Social Club at 7:30 pm.The book is: "Apeirogon" by Colum McCann. For details of future events please email **sheilafarrar@hotmail.co.uk** or call/text **07920 558319**



During the month of February we have celebrated Chinese New Year, the year of the snake with lots of fun activities around colour. We finished the half term with a Valentines theme session with lots of heart activities and music.

Since changing our name to Bar Hill Preschool CIO we have been busy updating our website and Facebook pages. We will host some fundraising events later in March/ early April do watch out for more details on our 'friends of Bar Hill Preschool' Facebook page and posters at the setting.

One of our current parents wrote this review from a parents point of view;

"My children love going to preschool and talk about their favourite workers and friends at home. The teachers are very attentive and dedicated to all children".

Bar Hill Preschool provides a variety of enriching activities that keep children happily engaged. My children go in and come out usually with smiles on their faces as every day is a new excitement to them. Just over the first few months I could see a big improvement in my daughter's language skills since she has been attending to the Pre School. After about 3months attendance she became confident in expressing herself verbally. She learnt so many new words and phrases and she would not stop talking now. On the top of that she makes friends easily now and became open to everybody which was a nice change to see in her behaviour because she was born during the times we were unable to socialise that much. My son is also very comfortable and relaxed in there although he has recently joined.

I receive regular updates about their days through the Pre School system and can view pictures as well as read stories which is great and important because it makes me feel I'm part of their days even I'm not present. Last but not least, to me it's vital that children can learn and have fun in a safe and clean environment like in Bar Hill Pre School.

We offer places to children the term after they are two years old. We accept 2,3,4 year old funding and also are part of the national savings childcare scheme. See our website www.barhillpreschool.co.uk for more details or call **01954 782892** for an application form.

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The original concept of the club hasn't changed since 1974, it is to encourage people to take a walk in their local countryside, enjoy a social chat, and at the same time learn a little about the local flora and fauna, but all in a friendly atmosphere.

You are welcome to join us on any two of our walks to see if our group is for you. Then, once you have enjoyed the views, fun, exhilaration, it is just a case of becoming a member. Annual membership membership fee is £10.00 per person.

No dogs are allowed except assistance dogs.

For further information please contact me **stella.hardwicke2274@hotmail.com** or **01954 210049** (mobile **07930 951703**).

Stella – Secretary

https://combertonramblers.org.uk

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Wildlife Gardening in March

Prepare for spring while supporting early pollinators, birds, and emerging mammals.

Plant early nectar sources like primroses, lungwort, hellebores, and crocuses to help bees and butterflies. Herbs such as rosemary and thyme provide early food, while native trees like willow, hazel, and blackthorn attract pollinators. Birds need support as they begin nesting, so put up nest boxes, keep feeders stocked with high-energy foods like sunflower seeds and suet, and provide fresh water for drinking and bathing.

Wildlife benefits from shelter—leave leaf litter for insects and amphibians, build log piles or stone heaps for hedgehogs, and create small gaps in fences to let them roam. If you have a pond, avoid disturbing frogspawn and newts, clear excess algae but leave it by the water so critters can return, and ensure shallow edges for easy access.

Encourage insects by letting dandelions grow as an early food source, placing insect hotels made from hollow stems or drilled wood for solitary bees, and avoiding pesticides that harm pollinators.

Helping Hedgehogs in March

This month it's all about making sure they come out of hibernation safely and have the resources they need to thrive. Here's what you can do to help : Hedgehogs wake up hungry and might struggle to find enough natural food. Leave out: Wet cat or dog food (chicken-based, no fish) and kitten biscuits. Fresh water (never milk— hedgehogs are lactose intolerant). Check for early risers. If you find a small hedgehog (under 600g), it might be struggling. If a hedgehog is out in the daytime, it's likely in distress and often seriously dehydrated —help is needed.

For advice contact : Liz Dams **07912 988898** / SWCC Hedgehog Hospital : **07947 361187**

Create Safe Spaces

Provide a sheltered spot with dry leaves, straw, or shredded newspaper. Wild areas: Leave parts of your garden messy with logs, leaves, and undergrowth.

Make Your garden hedgehog friendly. Hedgehog highways: Cut small holes (13cm x 13cm) in fences to help them roam safely. Avoid slug pellets & pesticides: They can poison hedgehogs and reduce their food sources. Check before strimming & having bonfires: Hedgehogs love hiding in long grass and log piles.

Keep an eye on weather changes. If March is still very cold, some hedgehogs might go back into hibernation. Ensure food and shelter remain available.

Hedgehog Fact

A group of hedgehogs is called an array, although they are usually solitary animals.

BAR HILL PARISH COUNCIL

Parish Council Office, Hanover Close, Bar Hill. CB23 8EH
01954 780456 - **clerk@barhill-pc.gov.uk**
Chairperson: **bunty.waters@barhill-pc.gov.uk**

Parish Office Opening Hours

Mon-Fri 9:00am - 5:00pm

Winter Tree Maintenance Works

This month you may see our contractors working on the many trees and green areas around the village. This maintenance work is carried out at times to avoid disturbing nesting birds and wildlife in the spring and summer. Unfortunately, every year some of these trees have to be cut back hard or felled to maintain the health of the trees, and for safety and insurance reasons.

We have removed a number of trees around Brookdale/ Watermead to avoid further damage to pathways but have also retained a number of cherry and field maples which will now be maintained for immunity value over the coming years.

2x ash were also felled due to ash die back. We have created a seat from one of the ash stumps which will remain for many years eventually feeding the fungi and therefore adding to biodiversity.

Plans for new suitable species as replacement are to be discussed.

Trip Hazards

Please can residents check behind their fences for overgrown brambles etc as they can be a trip hazard

Dog Fouling

Please make sure you clean up after your dogs and have poo bags with you when out walking with your dogs. Please report any concerns using the url below.

If you see anything that causes concern for safety in and around the Village for example electric scooters on pathways, please call 101 and report it.

City Fibre

As everyone is now aware work has commenced on the laying of the Fibre Optic cables around Bar Hill. For any complaints relating to this please direct them to https://up-connect.com/contact/ and fill out the form.

Litter Pickers

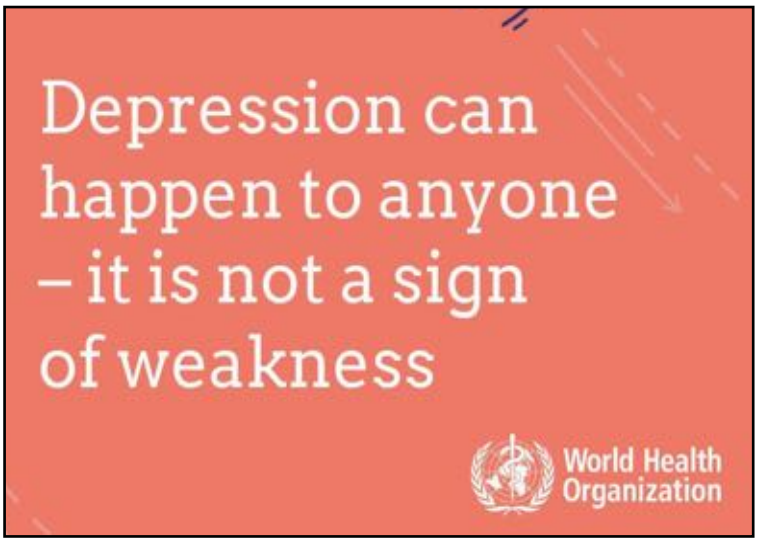
A big thank you to all the people that litter pick around the Village. Look out for the date for the Big Litter Pick in conjunction with Keep Britain Tidy.

Committee Meeting Dates

Environment and Amenities Meeting 5 March 2025

Full Council Meeting 20 March 2025

Finance Policy & Governance Meeting 25 March 2025



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Bar Hill Fete & Festival - July 12th

Preparations are continuing for the festival in July. We are currently in the process of contacting local businesses who might be interested in sponsoring the event, starting to put together the magazine (which will be sold around the village), and we are lining up the bands.

Some exciting news though; headlining this year will be Big 10!

If you'd like to book a stall then please contact stalls@barhill-ca.org for an application form, or you can register your details online at https://bit.ly/bh-stalls2025 (or scan the QR code below).

We are still looking for on-the-day marshals. If you are free and would like to help please contact us at volunteering@barhill-ca.org.

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NEW
SATURDAY LUNCH CLUB

OVER DAY CENTRE

Welcoming all residents of Over & surrounding villages to join us for lunch at the Day Centre, fourth Saturday of each month, service starting at 12:30 following the Memory Café, our next lunch on Saturday, March 22

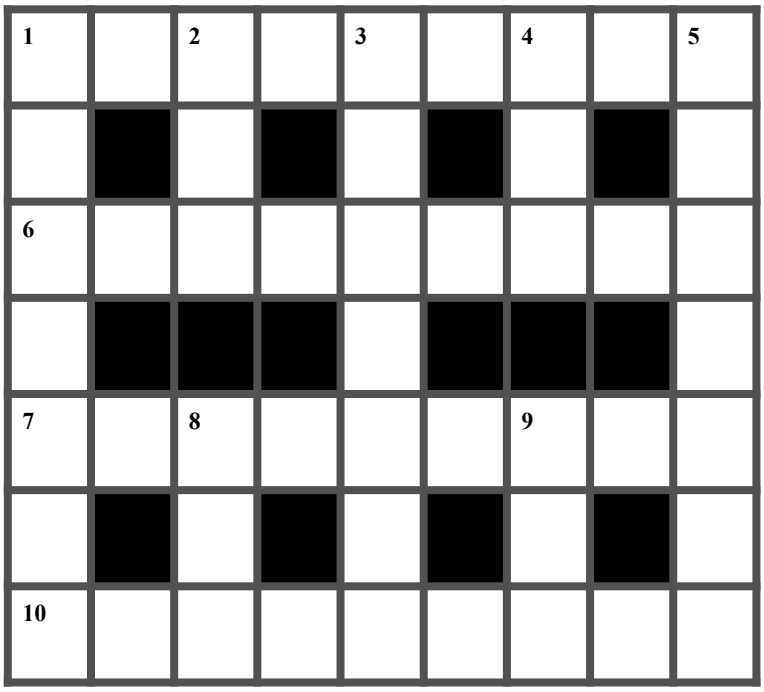
£10.00 per person, main course & dessert, includes teas & coffee

all food is freshly prepared & we're happy to cater for any dietary requirements

menu for lunches are available one month before, from our website or at the Memory Café

places must be pre booked, online www.overdaycentre.co.uk/whats-on/saturday-lunch-club/ or email: saturdaylunchclub@overdaycentre.co.uk, or telephone *01954 231807/07710 694900*

The Over Day Centre, 1 Drings Close, Over, Cambridgeshire CB24 5NZ, Charity No 1196202



PUZZLE for MARCH 2025

Across: 1.Imperial— place to visit at Duxford etc. 6.of tears. 7.predicament. 10.eg- a dodecahedron 4&5. **Down:** 5. & 1. Joseph - M - W- Turner. 2.a road rescue service. 3.pulls up plants. 4.a now scarce tree. 8.prohibit. 9.top or cap etc.

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NEIGHBOURHOOD WATCH 1982 - TODAY

Bar Hill Neighbourhood Watch

working for a safer community

BAR HILL

To contact Neighbourhood watch please email **nhwinbarhill@yahoo.co.uk**

To keep up to date on the latest developments please join us on facebook: **bit.ly/FBBarHillNHW** (or search for "Bar hill NHW")

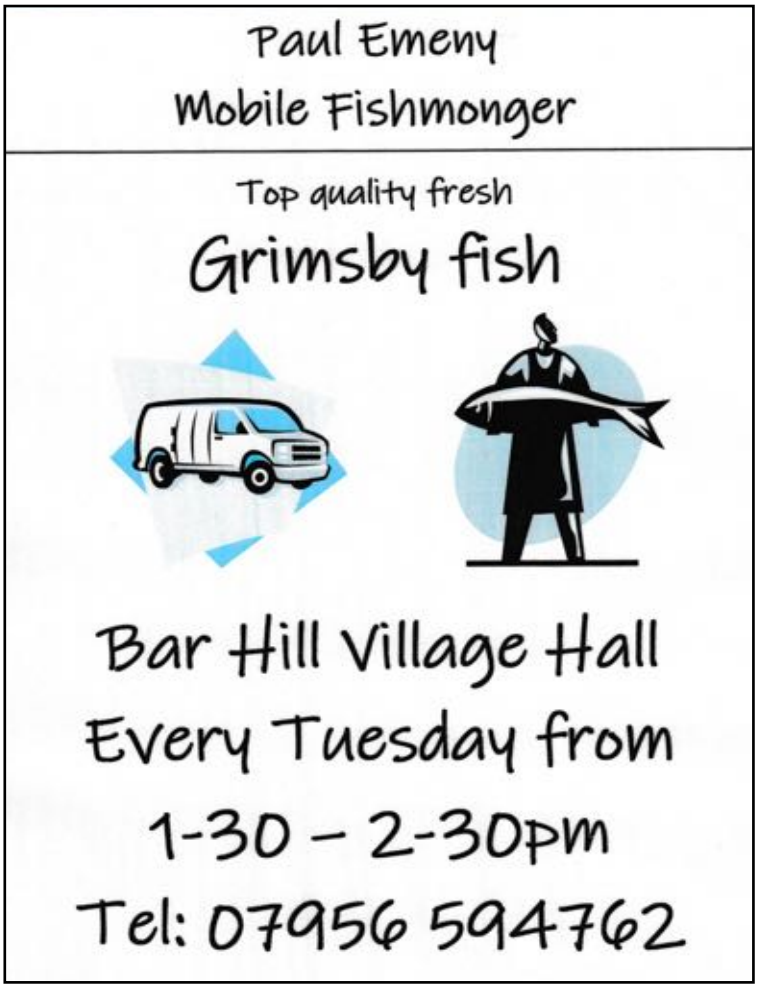
Bar Hill Village Hall

The large Main Hall has multi-purpose vinyl flooring, making it flexible for all types of events. There is a kitchen alongside the Hall with a serving hatch, making it useful for self-catering at parties, discos and the like. The licensed bar can be booked on request and will be serviced by the Sports and Social Club. The Hall opens out onto a large patio area that is ideal for external activities or a spill-over for internal events and has two bolted gates that lead off the premises.

There is also a Meeting Room, with its own independent access and great for meetings of up to 10 people.

The Village Hall is managed as a registered charity (number 1002579). To book, please visit our web site **barhillvillagehall.com** and email **enquiries@barhillvillagehall.com** to confirm arrangements.

Alternatively, call **01954 782414** and leave a message. We aim to return calls within 24hours (Monday to Friday).



TIGER

On behalf of the Cambridgeshire and Peterborough Combined Authority I wanted to make sure that you are aware of the launch of the Tiger bus pass, offering bus fares for just £1 for those under 25. This could be a vital tool for young people to access a range of opportunities across our region for just £1 over the summer break.

The new Tiger bus pass is ***free of charge*** and designed to make public transport more affordable for young people, helping them travel to school, college, training, work, shopping, and social activities.. This initiative is part of a broader effort by the Combined Authority to revamp public transport in the region.

You can apply for your pass online; **cambridgeshirepeterborough-ca.gov.uk/onepoundbusfare/**

Weekly playgroup sessions for babies and preschool children

A range of toys and play equipment with fun activities including crafts, singing, sensory play and story time

Thursday Morning 9:45-11:15am*
at the Octagon, Bar Hill

*term time only

Taster session Free, Further sessions - under 1 £2, over 1 £3, 2 or more children £4 refreshments and snacks included

We look forward to seeing you at our next session

FRIENDS OF THE ROSIE

With your help we are raising money to make the Rosie a more comfortable environment for mothers and babies.

New members are always welcome, whether to contribute financially, to join our team of crafters, join our committee, provide transport for our volunteers or display a small selection of our wares. If you would like to donate some of your spare time check out our website's volunteering page for some ideas.

Please join us at our next AGM at 1pm on March 10th at the Rosie.

Thank you for your continued support and we wish you all the very best for 2025

Avril Williams | **01954 782431**
avril@rosieinstitches.org.uk

and Jo Hall | **01954 780304**

You can purchase online from our shop;

rosieinstitches.org.uk/wordpress/shop

You can also donate, just by shopping online in your usual stores, via Easy Fundraising. You can sign up to support us here;

easyfundraising.org.uk/causes/forh/

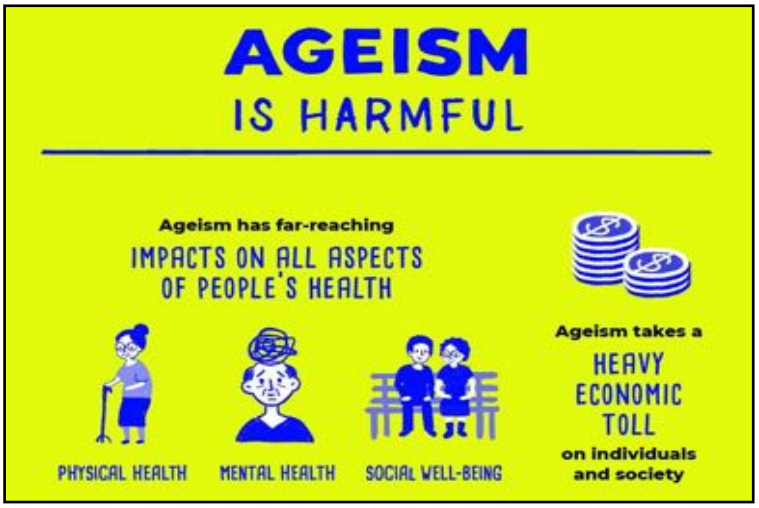
cda Cambridgeshire Deaf Association

Hearing Aid Maintenance session, every 1st Wednesday morning of the month from 10am to 12pm at Bar Hill Community Church, Viking Way CB23 8EH.

We'll be maintaining NHS hearing aids, replacing tubing and domes and supplying hearing aid batteries.

Our service also provides a wonderful volunteering opportunity either as a Technician, Receptionist or Host, full training is given. Please get in touch for more information.

riley.astrup@cambsdeaf.org | 01223 416141 | cambridgeshirehearinghelp.org.uk



Buttercups CHILDCARE LTD

Bar Hill Day Nursery and Out of School Club

www.buttercupschildcareltd.co.uk

Bar Hill Day Nursery is based in Gladeside, Bar Hill. We are open 7.30am – 6pm, Monday to Friday, 50 weeks per year. We have spaces year-round or term-time for children aged 4 months to 4 years. Please contact the Nursery for more information or to arrange a visit. **Phone: 01954 488081 Email: info@buttercupschildcareltd.co.uk**

Bar Hill Out of School Club is based in the building next to Bar Hill Primary School. We offer Before and After School care and Holiday Club for Primary aged children. We are open 7.30am – 8.45am, 3pm – 6pm Monday to Friday and 8am – 6pm during school holidays. For more information or to make a booking please contact the Out of School Club: **Phone 01954 200814 Email: oosc@buttercupschildcareltd.co.uk**

Bar Hill Primary School

It's been a busy and exciting few weeks at Bar Hill Primary School.

A massive well done to all children who participated in the Meridian Trust Top of the Rocks tournament at the end of January. We had an incredible response, leading the way for the majority of the tournament, and successfully managed to hold onto the top spot making Bar Hill Primary School the WINNERS! Special recognition goes to Horowitz and Ibbotson Classes for coming in 1st and 3rd place respectively across the whole trust, for Wilson Class for being 3rd highest scoring class in the school, and for Vedic, Cinar and Tate for getting 'Best in school' certificates.

We are incredibly proud of all our Panathlon competitors, but a special mention must go to Victor, Oscar, Madeline, Nathaniel, Sophie, Jack and Keisha who took part in a multi skills competition at Comberton Village College. The children worked really well as a team and provided each other with lots of support and encouragement. Their dedication and hard work paid off and they came away from the competition with a gold medal! Huge congratulations to all involved!

Bar Hill Primary 2 - Warboys Primary Academy 1

We are thrilled to announce the remarkable achievements of our Year 5 and Year 6 football team, who have recently triumphed in the South Cambs 7-a-side football tournament held in November. Their outstanding performance enabled them to qualify for the prestigious county finals, which took place at the end of January.

In the play-off match against Warboys Primary Academy, our team displayed commendable skill and tenacity. It was an exhilarating contest, marked by moments of high tension; however, we are ecstatic to report that Bar Hill Primary emerged victorious with a score of 2-1. The players demonstrated exceptional teamwork, showcasing their ability to communicate effectively and offer each other encouragement throughout the match.

As county champions, our talented team has now earned the opportunity to compete in the Regional Finals of the Pokémon Primary Schools Cup, which is set to take place in the coming months. We eagerly anticipate this event and are confident that our community will join us in wishing our players the very best of luck.

We extend our heartfelt thanks to the families who supported our children by transporting them to Warboys, and to Mrs Honey and Mr Cox for attending the match. Furthermore, we are grateful to Lloyd for his invaluable coaching during the game. Your support is truly appreciated.

Evergreens

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- **Celebration**

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When: **The fourth Monday each month.**

Where: **The Octagon, Viking Way, Bar Hill, CB23 8EH**

Time: **10am – 11.30am**

Phone: **01954 206 120**

Email: church.office@barhillchurch.org.uk

Face Book: **DM Kevin Potts**

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Vets for Pets
Bar Hill

Pet Dental Health Month: Looking After Your Dog and Cat's Teeth

February was Pet Dental Health Month – a great opportunity for you to consider on the often-overlooked aspect of your furry friend's health: their teeth. Just like humans, our pets can suffer from dental issues that can cause pain, discomfort, and even health problems throughout their body. We see a large number of our patients coming in for their health checks who already have advanced dental disease, without showing signs of pain or discomfort to their owners. Many of these conditions are preventable with the right care. Here are our Practice recommendations, to ensure your dog or cat's teeth remain healthy for years to come.

Tips for Keeping Your Pet's Teeth Healthy

Regular Brushing: Brushing your pet's teeth is the most effective way to maintain good oral hygiene. Use a pet-safe toothbrush and toothpaste (never use human toothpaste, as it can be harmful to pets). Aim to brush their teeth at least two to three times a week. Start slow, and be patient, as it may take time for your pet to get used to the process.

Dental Chews and Toys: There are numerous dental chews, toys, and treats available that help to naturally reduce plaque and tartar buildup. These can be a great addition to your pet's routine but should not replace regular brushing. Take care with harder chews, such as antlers, as these can lead to fractures of the teeth.

Regular Veterinary Check-ups: Just like humans, pets need regular dental check-ups. We can assess the condition of your pet's teeth, clean them professionally, and detect any potential issues before they become serious.

Healthy Diet: Providing a balanced diet with the right nutrients can contribute to your pet's oral health. Some pet foods are specially formulated to promote dental health by helping to reduce plaque and tartar buildup.

The Role of Dental Radiography in Cats

When it comes to dental health, some issues can't be seen with the naked eye. This is particularly true for cats, who are notorious for hiding pain and discomfort.

In cats, dental issues like resorptive lesions – a painful condition where the tooth structure breaks down – are common but often go unnoticed. These lesions typically occur below the gum line, which makes them difficult to detect without dental X-rays. Without proper diagnosis and treatment, these lesions can cause significant pain and lead to tooth loss.

Dental radiography allows us to get a clear image of the tooth roots, bone, and surrounding structures. This is invaluable for detecting abscesses, tooth fractures, gum disease, and other abnormalities that might not be immediately obvious. For example, a cat may have a tooth that appears fine on the surface, but a hidden root infection may be causing them severe pain.

If you are concerned about your pet's teeth, our nurses run dental health checks, where they are able to assess the mouth and teeth and advise on any measures that may need to be taken to help improve their oral health.

Please feel free to pop by and chat to one of our team!

Paying too much for your glasses?

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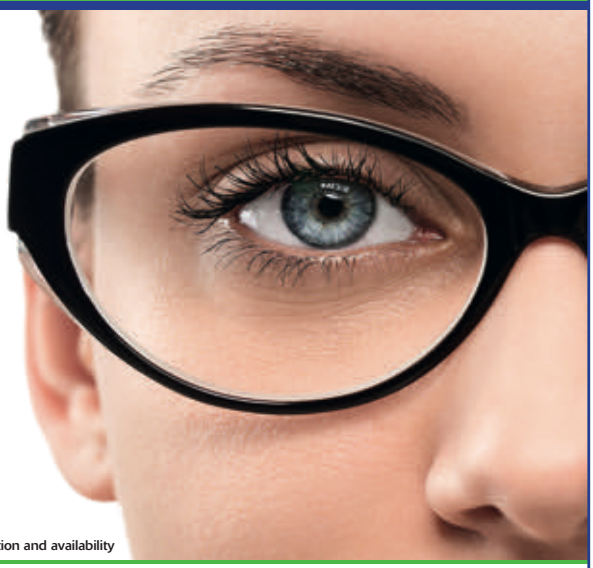

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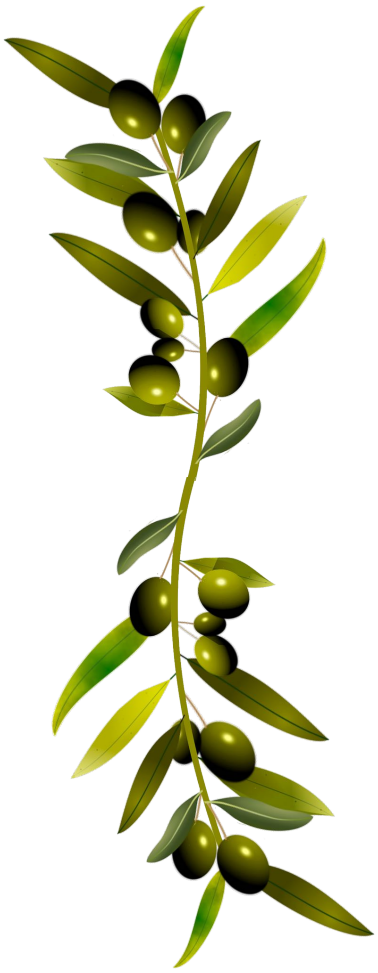

Spring is on the way, and although for most of us it is an optimistic time, for many it can be overshadowed by thoughts of loneliness or bereavement and loss.

Our meetings are held at 10.30 am on the second Saturday of the month, in the Octagon, and the next one will be on Saturday 8th March. We would love to see you whether you are a regular member, a new member or if you have never been before.

We are a very welcoming group where you can talk freely and where confidences are always respected. There will be time to share your experiences, join in discussions and get to know others in the group.

If you are not sure whether the group is right for you, please phone one of us to discuss it. We welcome all newcomers but would ask that you come at 10am so that we can explain the format.

The leaders, who are CRUSE trained, and the other members of the group will offer a warm welcome, and you will meet other people who have been through loss and who understand the pain and difficulties that this brings.

For more details telephone Sue Kenchington on **790260**, or Chris Stannard on **781978**.

Over Memory Café

inviting all people living with memory loss, their families and carers, to join us for Music, Refreshments and Fun.

Saturday, March 22
Saturday, April 26
Saturday, May 24

from 10 am to 12 noon

at The Over Day Centre, 1 Drings Close, Over CB24 5N
wheelchair accessible, free parking available

please visit https://www.facebook.com/OverMemoryCafe/

Saturday, March 8
Saturday, April 12
Saturday, May 10

Willingham Memory Box Café

Invites people living with memory loss (from any cause) and their carers to join us for Music, Company, Chat, Refreshments and Fun

from 10 am to 12 noon

In The Octagon
ind Willingham Parish Church, with wheelchair access and no steps)

vist our facebook page www.facebook.com/WillinghamMemoryBoxCafe/

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Our one session therapy is perfect for individuals or couples who can identify one specific skill they want to built or a problem they want to work on but don't think their area of concern needs to be addressed over a number of counselling sessions.

Contact us on 01223 792226 or counselling@relatecambridge.org.uk to book your appointment.

Domino - Local Company, Global Success

I have lived in Bar Hill since 1983, and have known there is one stand out company that has been a part of the landscape of the industrial areas of Bar Hill, for all of that time - Domino Printing Sciences.

Founded in 1978 by Graeme Minto, and first based in Milton, the company moved to premises in Bar Hill in 1982. These premises were located on the current site of Tesco's garage. One of the first jobs the company undertook was printing the numbers on bingo and cloakroom tickets. Just a single line of black numbers!

Since those early days, this award winning company has grown and grown, and now has more than 3000 employees globally. The business has manufacturing facilities in UK, USA, China , Germany, India, Sweden and Switzerland. Together with a network of subsidiary offices and distributors selling to customers in 120 countries.

The business headquarters are housed in a large building on Trafalgar Way. A smart building with a slick, modern atrium style reception area. It is hard to believe that behind this quiet, elegant entrance hall lies the beating heart of the Domino business - the manufacturing production line for its printing machines.

I was shown around the customer demonstration room by Sheila and Lesley, where I viewed the array of machines manufactured. These include ink jet and laser printer printers. Domino machines are capable of printing directly onto products or labels to be attached to products or shipping boxes. For example, marking codes and data on products, bar codes, data matrix and QR codes. These codes give manufacturing information and traceability. Other printed information is readable by a human e.g. use by date and best before date. The machines can print (or laser etch) on anything from a fragile egg shell right up to an enormous aircraft wing.

Domino machines may be involved in all areas of manufacture. For example, the hops for beer production may be packed in sacks at the fields with Domino labels, to be transferred to a brewery. Here the bottles may have labels with information collated by Domino. Their onwards journey to pubs and shops, may see them despatched in boxes with further labels printed using a Domino machine.

I also saw the production line, a clean, quiet area of technical industry. My thoughts were that it was part science lab and part manufacturing. From here the completed machines move on to be inked and tested, and then on to the despatching area.

Production staff work on the premises, whilst office staff can work a hybrid system of home and office. Depending on their role, Domino employees may be located anywhere in the world.

Many of Domino's employees remain loyal to the company for several decades. Barry Few, a fellow BarHillian of some 35 years, joined Domino in 1982. He has accrued 42 years of service with the company fulfilling many roles over the decades. Today he is their Worldwide Technical Training Manager for Digital Printing. Over the years he has witnessed the growth of Domino and its footprint in Bar Hill.

"I have been in the privileged position of seeing Bar Hill and Domino grow. Over the years, I have met so many great friends in the village and thousands of work colleagues." Barry told me "I can never escape meeting people, past and present, many times in Tesco's. I hear 'Hello Barry, how are you?' and

the the 10 minute chats.. "

In 2016 Domino launched its apprentice scheme. Apprentices can earn whilst they learn. Rotating through different areas of the company, they can gain experience of several aspects of the business. As well as learning on the job, apprentices study at a local college or online.

Year on year, Domino and its employees have consistently supported charities. In 2024 a generous total of £32,000 was raised for causes local, national and worldwide. Our Village clubs and societies have benefitted from donations to The British Legion, The Cricket Club, The Primary School and the Fete. Sharon Viccars, Domino's Internal Communications Manager said "As a business, we believe in giving back and recognise that it is important to help charities and local causes, which in many cases, need donations to survive."

Domino has touched the lives of many from Bar Hill. Some as employees and some as beneficiaries of charitable donations and, what a coup for us all to have such a prestigious building on our doorstep!

By Bridget Wilson

Bar Hill Childminders

Bar Hill Childminders are all graded 'Good' on their latest inspections, are fully insured and have Paediatric First Aid training. We offer quality, caring, home from home care with a wide range of exciting experiences for the children, both within our settings and the local community.

We regularly go on walks, outings and attend local groups to help the children socialise. We find having a wide range of ages benefits all the children in our care, it helps the younger children's confidence and encourages the older children to be patient and understanding with the younger children, helping them learn and progress.

We accept all Government funding for eligible parents and the Government Tax Free Childcare payments.

As we are busy during the day with the children, please text us your enquiry with details of your requirements and we will contact you as soon as possible with our up to date availability and hourly rates.

Jacky – **07718 447998** – ages 6 months upwards. Term time only and all year round care offered.

Kirsten – **07906 218070** – ages 6 months upwards. Term time only and all year round care offered. No spaces available.

In February we celebrated Lunar New Year with some yummy snacks and made some swirly snakes to mark the Year of the Snake. We enjoyed stories in National Storytelling week and for Valentines Day we made some special crafts for people that are special to us.

In March for World Book Day, we will be using special tokens to choose and buy books to take home to share with our family. We will also be bringing our favourite books and stories from home to share with with our friends.

We will be making and tasting yummy pancakes on Shrove Tuesday.

Mother's Day is at the end of March and we will be busy making a special card and present for our Mummies.

We will also be looking for signs of spring on our daily walks.

Cambridge Cats Protection
Making a better life for cats

Call 01223 528 312 **to provide a forever home for a cat or kitten in our care.** For neutering advice call 01223 236 188.

enquiries@cambridge.cats.org.uk | cats.org.uk/cambridge

We are run solely by volunteers and appreciate your patience at busy times.

CATS PROTECTION

Cats Protection is a registered charity 203644 (England and Wales), SC037711 (Scotland) and is listed as a Section 167 institution by the Charity Commission of Northern Ireland. BC_1770

FUNDRAISER!

Only £10 per ticket
All proceeds go to the playground

DISCO!!

Raffle

Sweet Treats

Come and help us raise much needed funds for our new village playground.

8th March. Bar Hill Village Hall. 7:30-12:00

07874 009492 - Contact number for tickets